

## Abraham Lincoln papers

From George Cassaru to Abraham Lincoln, September 25, 1862

Balto 25 Sept 1862

Dear Sir

I have taken the liberty of sending you per Adams & Co Express, a half barrell containing half a dozen hams, which please accept on this occasion of the "Proclamation"<sup>1</sup> as a slight tribute of respect from one whose Unionism knows no compromise.

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<sup>1</sup> Lincoln had issued the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation on September 22. For the text of the proclamation, see *Collected Works*, V, 433-36.

My associations are mainly with earnest Union men I and have conversed with dozens of them since the "Proclamation", and I scarcely visit one of the class but who cordially approve of the measures of the Proclamation.

I have long believed the Proclamation a military necessity, have recently believed it the most efficient if not an indispensable means of crushing out the rebellion, and you will believe that my motives are not Abolition when I tell you that during the 27 years I have been voting I never even split my tickets but voted for Democracy — strait through, my last important vote having been for my friend Judge Douglass

The Proclamation will create the necessity for prudent traitors to go home to protect their wives children & property, — and stay there, it will show to the world that we are willing to lose what has been the greatest interet, and which has controlled the country — rather than lose our Nationality

It will prove to the earnest men of our own country that prompt and rigid measures are to be inaugurated that scoundralism is be put down by every available means, that instead of the earlier policy of "developing Union sentiments" — treason is to be punished

I have felt much anxiety and a host of others have shared it here in regard to the governmental policy. Knowing the pernicious influence sought to be brought to bear by well meaning but horribly mistaken "Border State" men, but this act of the President makes us feel that the Jackson spirit is still in the land and that the rebellion will be crushed



With Much Respect

Yours Truly

Geo Cassaru